

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

15 NOV 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Congo situation

The UN command is providing considerable indirect support--though no combat forces--to varied anti-Tshombé elements trying to split Northern Katanga away from Elizabethville. Control of the area is now divided erratically between Baluba tribesmen, the UN, and military forces directed by the Adoula government and/or Gizenga. The Tshombé government cannot decide whether to fight for the area or to draw its defense line further south.

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2. Thais consider stalemate best alternative for Laos.

Prime Minister Sarit yesterday turned down our Ambassador's plea that he use his influence with Phoumi and Boun Oum to bring about a meeting with Souvanna. He predicted that hostilities would resume soon in Laos, but then backed off somewhat, saying that he believed the best thing would be a stalemate with neither negotiations nor hostilities.

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NOTES

- A. The latest press reports on the Philippine election show President Garcia running behind Vice President Macapagal by more than 700,000 with 60 percent of the ballots counted. However, late returns may make the race closer. 50X1
- B. The Shah has apparently accepted US and British advice against taking personal control of the government and is prepared, for a time at least, to give Prime Minister Amini a relatively free hand.

E.

North Vietnam intends to send 10 regular regiments, 10 companies of special forces and ten small groups of political activists into South Vietnam before the end of the year. 50X1

- F. Even the Yugoslavs in Mali are expressing concern over the speed with which that country is slipping toward domination by the Bloc.

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